

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 08065 020701Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 VO-03 CA-01 INSE-00
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P 020621Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7051
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 8065

HONG KONG PASS TO INS OIC YOUNG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJ: AIR ACCOMMODATIONS

REF : (A) STATE 147272, (B) HONG KONG 7823

1. POST FEELING STRAIN, REF (A) CRITICAL SITUATION VIS A VIS
REFUGEE FLIGHTS ACROSS PACIFIC. BECAUSE OF UNPRECEDENTED TRANS-
PAC TRAVEL BOOM, NWA STRIKE, AIRLINE CANCELLATIONS AND FINALLY
TYPHOON IN HONG KONG, POST IS ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTY IN MEETING
THOUSAND-DEPARTURES-PER-MONTH GOAL FOR JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER
AND OCTOBER.

2. IN JULY, WE MANAGED 878 DEPARTURES FOR U.S. (1,700 OVERALL)
FROM KUALA LUMPUR. IT IS EXPECTED, BARRING NWA GOING BACK ON LINE,
THAT THIS APPROXIMATE RATE OF DEPARTURE WILL CONTINUE THROUGH
SEPTEMBER. ICEM HAS ARRANGED CHARTERS OF TWO PANAM 707'S IN
FIRST WEEK OCTOBER. POST NOW STAGING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA-
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SPONSORED REFUGEES FOR FLIGHTS. AUSTRALIANS AGREE TO OUR USING
THEIR TRANSIENT CENTER FOR STAGING OF CHARTER FLIGHTS.

3. CHARTERS AND ANTICIPATED SLACKENING OF DEMAND TRANSPAC FLIGHTS
MONTH OF OCTOBER SHOULD ALLOW US TO RECOVER GROUND LOST DURING
NWA STRIKE AND SHOW DEPARTURE RATE IN EXCESS OF 1,000 REFUGEES
PER MONTH FOR FOUR MONTH PERIOD.

4. GIVEN JULY'S FOUR THOUSAND NEW ARRIVALS, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT DEPARTURES UNDER IPP/LRP BE MAXIMIZED. DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE POST WHEN LRP DEPARTURES MAY BE BEGUN. INFORMATION NEEDED ASAP IN ORDER TO BLOCK SEATS FOR LAST WEEK OF AUGUST. ALSO, WOULD APPRECIATE WORD PROGRESS ON REFUGEE FARE RATE FOR FLIGHTS ACROSS CONUS FROM U.S. EAST COAST PORTS OF ENTRY. FINALLY, AGAIN REFERRING TO ARRIVAL RATE, DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO CONTINUE TO URGE VOLAGS TO RUSH ASSURANCES ON LAST FEW HUNDRED IPP-78 CASES AND TO EXPEDITE ASSURANCES ON LRP-APPROVED CASES. MILLER

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